

For Immediate Release
June 13, 2011

ARIZONA WOMAN SENTENCED FOR
ATTEMPTING TO SMUGGLE \$13,700 INTO MEXICO

LAS CRUCES – Earlier today in federal court in Las Cruces, **Daisy Beltran**, 19, a resident of Tempe, Arizona, was sentenced to time served (seven days) and two years of supervised release for attempting to smuggle more than \$10,000 in currency out of the United States.

United States Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales stated that the charges against Beltran stemmed from conduct occurring at the Columbus, New Mexico Port of Entry on August 25, 2010. According to the criminal complaint, as Beltran was attempting to cross into Palomas, Mexico, inspectors at the Columbus Port of Entry found \$13,700 in Beltran's purse. Before the inspectors found the cash, Beltran declared that she was not carrying any currency in excess of \$10,000.

On December 29, 2010, Beltran pled guilty to violating 31 U.S.C. § 5332, which makes it a crime for a person to evade reporting requirements by knowingly concealing more than \$10,000 in currency when transporting the currency out of the country. Beltran also pled guilty to structuring transactions to evade currency reporting requirements and making a false statement to a federal officer.

This case was investigated by Immigration & Customs Enforcement Homeland Security Investigations, and was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Michael D. Nammar.

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